

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 185990
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 /048 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:RHOWDEK
APPROVED BY AF:WHARROP
NEA/AFN:TWILKINSON

-----033952 231915Z /41

O P 231846Z JUL 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY RABAT NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAKAR PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 185990

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE FROM HARROP

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: OVIP (MOOSE, RICHARD M.), PEPR, PBOR, PINS,MR,
MO

SUBJECT: BILATERALS IN RABAT -- SAHARA DISPUTE UPDATE

REFTEL: A) STATE 180505, B) RABAT 4403, C) BRUSSELS 14144,
D) RABAT 4443, E) RABAT 4441, F) RABAT 4440

1. THE CEASEFIRE EXTENDED BY THE POLISARIO FOLLOWING THE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 185990

COUP IN MAURITANIA CONTINUES. GIRM APPEARS COMMITTED TO
PRESERVATION OF CEASEFIRE AND END TO FIGHTING, WHILE TRYING
TO AVOID CONFRONTATION WITH MOROCCO. (REF G). WE HAVE
REPORTS OF CONSIDERABLE DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY BY ARABS AND
AFRICANS TO FIND A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION.

2. SENGHOR WAS SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH POLISARIO REPRESENT-

ACTIVE BABA MISKE THIS WEEKEND IN DAKAR. BEFORE AGREEING TO THE MEETING REQUESTED BY MISKE, SENGHOR CONSULTED WITH MAURITANIAN PRESIDENT SALEK, WHO URGED SENGHOR TO RECEIVE MISKE AND TO ASCERTAIN FROM HIM THE POLISARIO'S TERMS FOR A SETTLEMENT.

3. THE CAMEROONIANS HAVE ADVANCED A PEACE FORMULA, WHICH REPORTEDLY IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE ALGERIANS (REF. C). IT CALLS FOR THE CREATION OF A "SAHARAN HOMELAND" WITHIN THE BORDERS OF WESTERN SAHARA, BUT NOT BORDERING ON ALGERIA.

GIRM FEARS POSSIBLE NEGATIVE REACTION BY MOROCCANS TO FORMULA AND THEREFORE WOULD BE PREPARED TO HAVE ALL OR MOST OF THE TERRITORY FOR THE PROPOSED SAHARAN HOMELAND COME OUT OF THE MAURITANIAN SECTOR OF THE FORMER SPANISH SAHARA. FYI. WE WERE PUZZLED BY GUEDIRA'S COMMENT TO SAUNDERS (REF F, PARA 3) THAT ALGERIANS WERE MORE CONCERNED ABOUT MAURITANIAN SECTOR OF SAHARA THAN ABOUT MOROCCAN SECTOR. UNLESS HIS MEANING WAS CLEAR TO ENBASSY RABAT, YOU MIGHT SOUND BADDOU ON THIS POINT. END FYI.

4. SPAIN REMAINS PREPARED TO HOST A CONFERENCE ON THE SAHARA, BUT THERE HAS BEEN NO RECENT MOVEMENT ON SUBJECT. TALKS BETWEEN THE INTERESTED PARTIES CONTINUE, BUT THE ALGERIANS ARE INSISTING THAT POLISARIO BE REPRESENTED AS A SEPARATE ENTITY AND THAT SUCH A CONFERENCE BE SPECIFICALLY SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 185990

TAGGED AS DEALING EXCLUSIVELY WITH THE SAHARA, BOTH OF WHICH ARE UNACCEPTABLE TO THE MOROCCANS.

5. MOROCCANS WERE NOT ESPECIALLY FORTHCOMING ON SAHARA DISPUTE DURING SAUNNDERS VISIT (REF F). ROYAL COUNSELOR REDA GUEDIRA TOLD U.S. PARTY THAT HE "COULD NOT EXCLUDE" NEW EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A PEACE SETTLEMENT OR MAURITANIA REDUCING ITS WAR EFFORT. WE HAVE APPARENTLY RELIABLE INTELLIGENCE THAT HASSAN WOULD LIKE TO MEET BOUMEDIENNE TO DISCUSS THE SAHARA SOMETIME AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE OAU MEETING IN KHARTOUM.

6. TALKING POINTS:

- U.S. CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THE SAHARA DISPUTE MUST BE RESOLVED AMONG THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED.
- WE HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED BY WHAT WE HAVE HEARD ABOUT RECENT DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THE DISPUTE.
- WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN LEARNING YOUR VIEWS ON HOW PRODUCTIVE THESE EFFORTS HAVE BEEN AND WHAT MIGHT BE THE FORM OF AN EVENTUAL SETTLEMENT. VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISPUTES, BRIEFING MATERIALS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE185990
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RHOWDEK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780302-0985
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780729/aaaaaymi.tel
Line Count: 115
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4545f96d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 TEL AVIV 978, 78 STATE 180505, 78 RABAT 4403, 78 BRUSSELS 14144
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1912856
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BILATERALS IN RABAT -- SAHARA DISPUTE UPDATE
TAGS: OVIP, PEPR, PBOR, PINS, MR, (MOOSE, RICHARD M)
To: RABAT
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4545f96d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014